



One of the abandoned, derelict houses in Erskine Street.

# Houses remain a concern

CONCERNS are still plentiful surrounding two police houses in Scottburgh which have been used by vagrants and supposed drug addicts since late October of 2015.

The two houses in question, supposedly under the care and maintenance of the National Department of Public Works, have been left to deteriorate despite initial progress from various oversight bodies some years ago. Erskine Street residents still fear for the safety of

schoolchildren who walk along this road daily as they make their way towards school.

Initially, evidence of drug use was found at both properties when reporters went to investigate. However, during a more recent visit, it seemed as though the properties had undergone a clean-up. Residents have suggested that perhaps vagrants who make use of the properties have opted to clean up so as to sleep in a cleaner environment.

No visible signs of drug use were present at either of the properties. However, the properties have very clearly been ransacked completely, with no electric fittings, pipes or other items of value being present or intact.

The two houses were a hot topic when the Mail first reported on the matter and, since then, despite an investigation by Ranjay Narain of the KwaZulu-Natal branch of the Public Protector's Office, nothing seems to have been done.